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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent  
appln. of.: Lianli Ji et al.  
  
Serial No.: 09/801,489  
  
Filed: March 7, 2001  
  
For: Gravity-Sensitive Latch  
  
Examiner: Gary Estremsky  
  
Art Unit: 3627  
  
Docket No.: 55-01

**Certificate of Mailing**

Date of deposit: June 7, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant calls the attention of the Examiner to the publications listed on the enclosed sheets of Form PTO-1449. Copies of each publication are submitted herewith. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as described in §1.56 (b).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial Form PTO-1449 and return a copy of same upon consideration of these publications.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-captioned application, accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

### U.S. PATENTS

U.S. Patent No. 4,597,599 to Bisbing, dated July 1, 1986;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,703,960 to Lense, dated November 3, 1987;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,838,056 to Weinerman et al., dated June 13, 1989;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,850,208 to Wienerman et al., dated July 25, 1989;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,969,916 to Winerman et al., dated November 13, 1990;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,046,340 to Weinerman et al., dated September 10, 1991;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,127,686 to Gleason et al., dated July 7, 1992;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,226,302 to Anderson, dated July 13, 1993;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,234,238 to Takimoto, dated August 10, 1993;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,292,159 to Sandhu et al., dated March 8, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,299,844 to Gleason, dated April 5, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,340,174 to Bender et al., dated August 23, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,413,391 to Clavin et al., dated May 9, 1995;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,927,772 to Antonucci et al., dated July 27, 1999;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,927,773 to Larsen et al., dated July 27, 1999;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,941,104 to Sadler, dated August 24, 1999;  
U.S. Patent No. 6,048,006 to Antonucci et al., dated April 11, 2000; and  
U.S. Patent No. 6,149,213 to Sokurenko et al., dated November 21, 2000.

### FOREIGN PATENTS

None.

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*GWE 12/13/02*

**PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER REFERENCES**

Southco Latches and Access Hardware Catalog, Handbook 43, pp. G-14 through G-17 (1993);

Southco Latches and Access Hardware Catalog, North American Edition - 48 NA, p. G-10 (1998);

Southco, Handbook 2000, pg. 122;

Suzuki Latch (Item 1);

Toyota Latch (Item 2);

Nissan or Mazda Latch (Item 3);

Lexus Latch (Item 4);

Latch (Item 5); and

Nissan Latch (Item 6).

No additional fee is believed to be required. In the event that an additional fee is required with respect to this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee, or credit any overpayment to Paul & Paul Account No. 16-0750.

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Dated: June 7, 2001

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Respectfully submitted,

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